



## *The President's Daily Brief*

20 June 1970

46

~~Top Secret~~<sup>50X1</sup>

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

20 June 1970

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Current developments in Cambodia are discussed on  
*Page 1.*

In Laos, the Communists are successfully countering  
government moves in the Saravane area. (*Page 3*)

Communist China has strengthened its ground forces  
in northern China. (*Page 4*)

The Bolivian Government is faced with continuing  
student demands and threats of demonstrations.  
(*Page 5*)

The Soviets

[REDACTED]  
(*Page 6*)

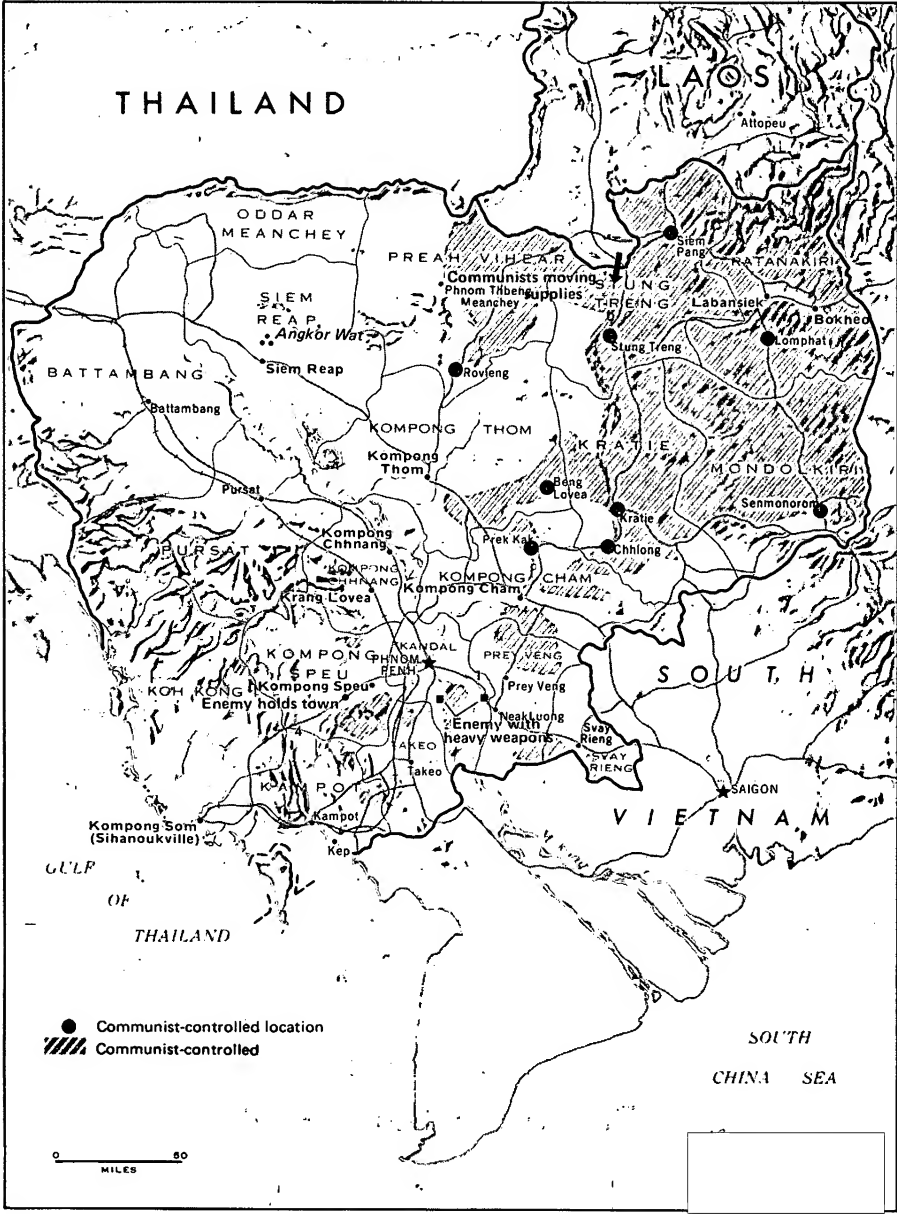
50X1

50X1

Soyuz-9 experiments will aid Soviet programs to  
develop permanent space stations and a manned lunar  
landing. (*Page 6*)

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

Cambodia: Current Situation



50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

CAMBODIA

[redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] Kompong Thom city reports fierce fighting 50X1  
there yesterday. [redacted] the city was still 50X1  
encircled [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] On 18 June 50X1  
the regional commander asked Phnom Penh for massive  
intervention by "allied heliported troops" in order  
to save Kompong Thom. Press reports claim that some  
enemy forces have pushed to within 200 yards of ma-  
jor government strong points in the city, and that  
allied aircraft are attacking to relieve the pressure  
on defenders. [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted] in areas east of the Mekong River at the Laos- 50X1  
Cambodia border the Communists have requisitioned  
all bicycles, trucks, and boats for use in moving  
ammunition to Kompong Thom, and to Siem Reap as well.

The situation at Kompong Chhnang city apparently  
has stabilized, at least for the moment. [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted]

Phnom Penh is calm, but government spokesmen  
continue to talk of an impending attack on the city.  
There is still no evidence any enemy action is in  
the offing [redacted] 50X1  
[redacted]

The US Embassy reports that Lon Nol finally has  
agreed to the evacuation of the government's two re-  
maining outposts in Ratanakiri Province. No time-  
table for the evacuation of Labansiek and Bokheo  
towns has thus far been set, however.

(continued)

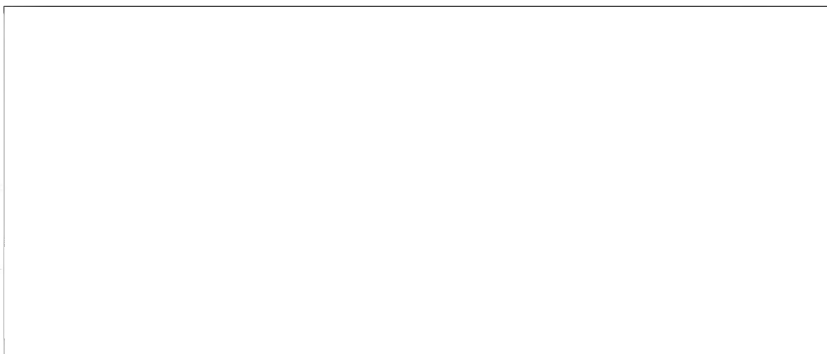
FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

\* \* \*

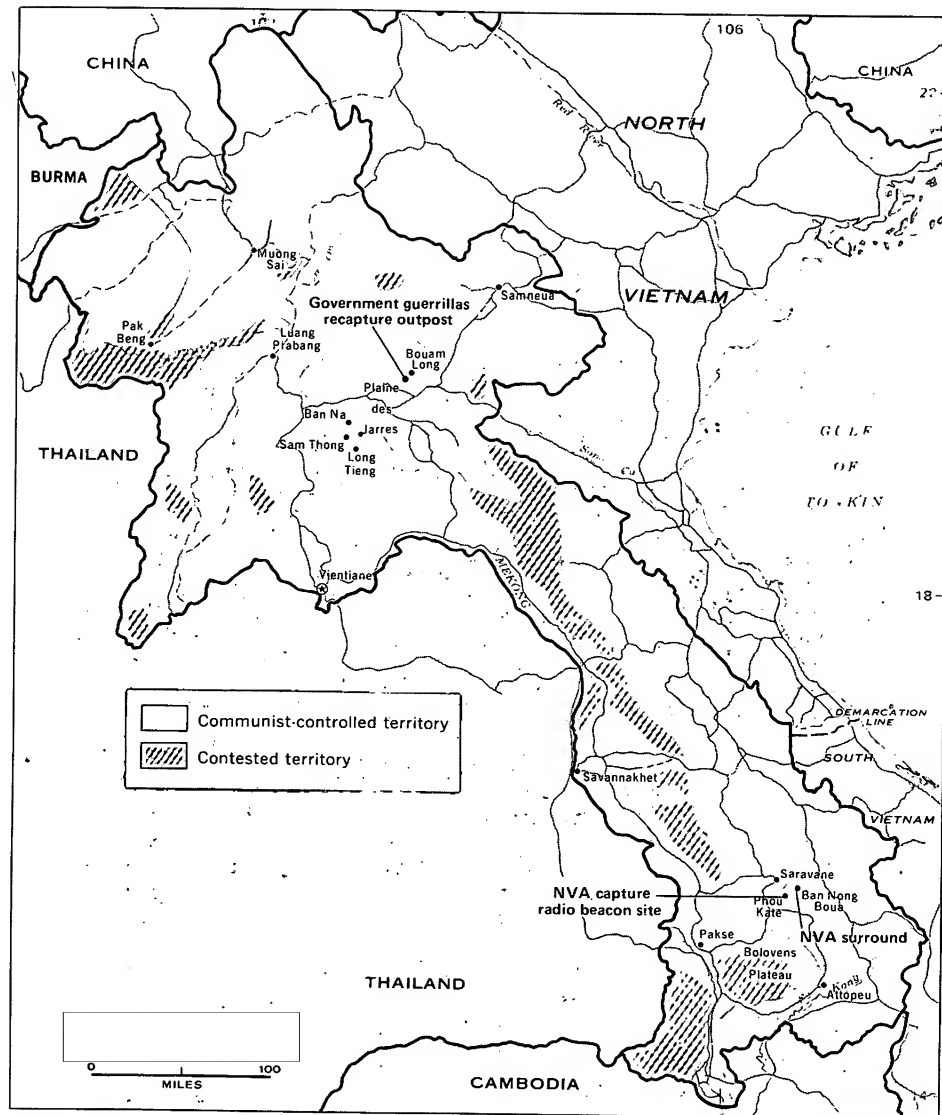
Cambodian-Lao discussions on possible joint operations to interdict enemy supply lines have petered out. A five-man party of Cambodian Army officers visited Vientiane from 12-15 June and discussed the possibility of "joint" operations to interdict enemy supply lines running through southern Laos into Cambodia, in spite of the fact that Phnom Penh currently has no forces available for such an effort. Officials in Vientiane were generally agreeable to the use of Lao troops but were unwilling to make specific tactical commitments or to train Cambodian recruits which Phnom Penh hoped to make available to the Lao Army for use in border operations. The Cambodian delegation returned home with no firm plans for subsequent meetings. The Laotians did promise, however, to turn over any French weapons which may be left in the Lao Army inventory.

\* \* \*



50X1

2

**Laos: Current Situation**

98931 6-70 CIA

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

LAOS

The Communists continue to frustrate government efforts to retake Saravane. Press reports indicate that government defenders have abandoned Ban Nong Boua, a small base southeast of Saravane which was to have served as a staging area for the recapture of the town. Ban Nong Boua had been under intermittent rocket and mortar fire for the past several days.

The only radio beacon site in south Laos, located a short distance from Ban Nong Boua at Phou Kate, has also fallen to the Communists. The beacon had been a valuable navigational aid for air operations in the southern panhandle.

The military situation in northern Laos remains relatively quiet, with only minor skirmishes reported. Continuing bad weather southwest of the Plaine des Jarres has forced Vang Pao to postpone, at least temporarily, his drive to retake Ban Na. North of the Plaine, Laotian guerrillas recaptured an important outpost guarding the approaches to the government's long-besieged base at Bouam Long. Enemy forces, who had seized the outpost in early April, did not oppose this action.

### Peking May Be Strengthening Military Posture in North China



50X1

98929 6-70 CIA



*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

COMMUNIST CHINA

In the past few months Peking has moved several armies to strengthen its ground forces in north China. Two armies from east and southeast China, the 27th and 28th, appear to have moved northward to the Peking area. In addition, there are tenuous suggestions that the 47th Army has moved from south China to the northwest. A few other armies are also out of communications but so far there is no indication that they have redeployed.

*A typical Chinese army numbers some 40,000. Therefore the northern deployment of three armies may have resulted in an increase of 100-120,000 troops in the north. We had previously estimated ground forces strength there at 1 - 1.2 million.*

50X1

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

BOLIVIA

Attempts by the Ovando government to link the deaths of two Cochabamba university students to alleged US "agents" have backfired. Leftist student and labor groups are using statements by government leaders to substantiate their charges that foreign elements were responsible for the students' deaths and to drum up support for further demonstrations against the government. The students are demanding that the government expel Ambassador Siracusa and the US military mission there. Further demonstrations are planned for La Paz and other cities and US installations could be targets.

*The Ovando government has given no evidence that it knows what to do about the growing student unrest and the students are interpreting the government's inaction as weakness. Members of the military are becoming increasingly uneasy over the handling of the student disorders*

50X1  
50X1  
50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

NOTES

USSR: [REDACTED]

50X1  
50X1

USSR: Soyuz-9 was recovered yesterday in the Soviet Union after setting a new duration record for manned spaceflight of 18 days. [REDACTED]

50X1  
50X1

[REDACTED] The results obtained will be useful to the Soviets in programs leading to development of permanent space stations and a manned lunar landing.

50X1

*FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY*

*Top Secret*